Managing Civil Disorder During a Disaster





Captain Darrin Peterson Biloxi Police Department Biloxi, Mississippi



Pre Storm

- Supplies
 - Make sure you have stock piles of supplies for your workers
- Food stores
 - Water
- Hardware stores
 - ply wood
 - generators
- Gas stations
 - Gasoline
 - Diesel
- In disasters with pre warning, such as hurricanes, make sure emergency workers prepare immediately so they are available to police these situations.
- Stress to emergency workers to evacuate family if possible so they can focus on there responsibility to the community.







During Event

- How to handle calls for help
 - When to cease rescue operations
 - Log call and prioritize calls for response when able
 - Prepare call takers for taking calls knowing they can not send immediate assistance
- Use time to adjust plans
- Incident command a must

Incident Command

- Be prepared to put people in critical positions that can get the job done
- Patrol
- Fuel
- Food
- Asset distribution (PODS)
- Security
- Press
- Outside resources
- Resource acquisition
- Communicate up and down the ladder











Immediately after the event

- Rescue operations
- Assessment of situation
 - Establish priorities for troops
- Looting
 - Necessities
 - Unclear possession
 - Pawn Shops and Gun Stores
- Dead bodies

Immediately after the event

- Have pre staged assets
 - Heavy Equipment
 - Food
 - Water
- Have a plan for distribution
 - -PODs
- Communicate to the public that situation is under control



Long term

- Organization of outside resources
- Take care of emergency workers
 - Although it creates problems of its own, it is imperative that for long term commitment from emergency workers that priority consideration be given to there needs such as water, food, and shelter.
 - Be prepared to expand normal definition of emergency workers
 - Police
 - Fireman
 - Public works
 - Volunteers
- Assign small areas of responsibility
- Sewer and water service
- Emergency Response Vehicles
- Money Distribution sights
- Pre Storm Contracts Not Dependable
- Faith based assistance
- Continue to communicate to the public that situation is under control

Lessons Learned

- The importance of Law Enforcement involvement in Emergency Management
 - Initial lead role
- Have a plan and KNOW the plan
- Do not set limitations of what you expect by past events
- Emergency personnel pre staging
- Equipment pre staging
 - Heavy equipment
 - Vehicles

Lessons Learned

- Be prepared to be self sufficient for the first week
- Monitor personnel for stress